

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are currently pending in the instant application.

Claims 11 and 13 have been previously cancelled, without prejudice.

Claims 12 and 14 are cancelled herewith, without prejudice.

Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kosofsky *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 5,935,341). Applicant submits this rejection has been rendered moot in light of the instant amendment, wherein Claim 14 has been cancelled, without prejudice. Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejection.

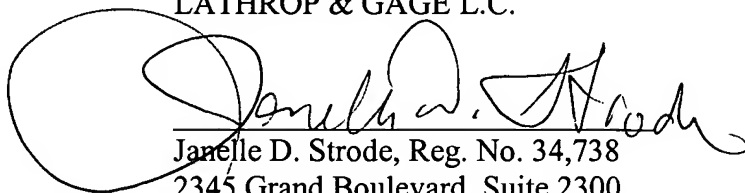
Claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kosofsky *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 5,935,341). Applicant submits this rejection has been rendered moot in light of the instant amendment, wherein Claim 12 has been cancelled, without prejudice. Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of Claims 1-10 and 15. Applicant requests a Notice of Allowance in the instant application.

Should the Examiner believe that issues remain outstanding, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicant's undersigned attorney in an effort to resolve such issues and advance this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

LATHROP & GAGE L.C.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janelle D. Strode", is written over the printed name and address.

Janelle D. Strode, Reg. No. 34,738
2345 Grand Boulevard, Suite 2300
Kansas City, MO 64108-2612
Tel: (816) 460-5859
Fax: (816) 292-2001
Attorney for Applicant